35¢

The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

OCTOBER 6th, 1977, ISSUE No. 38

PARTY BOAT FLOUNDER FILLETS

★

Autumnat Atlantic Beach

★

FALL FLOUNDER FISHING

★

Stop the Foreign Mackerel Quota!

See Page 8.

WRECK FISHING: *The Drumelzier*

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BOATING

BAYSIDE FLOTILLA OFFERS BOATING COURSE

Flotilla 12-1, United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, will present a seven lesson Boating Skills and Seamanship Course at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 42-18 31st Avenue, Astoria, Queens, starting on Monday, October 3, 1977 and continuing for seven Monday nights from 7:30 to 10:00 PM. The instruction itself is free, but there is a registration fee to help the Flotilla defray the cost of materials, such as the course textbook. The course is for the public and covers fundamental boating knowledge: for example; boat handling, knots, buoys, rules of the road, engines, first aid, piloting, weather and more.

PROPOSED C. G. CHANGES FOR LIFE JACKETS

On December 30, 1977, the Coast Guard will hold a public hearing to receive testimony about proposed changes in Coast Guard regulations pertaining to personal flotation devices on party boats, commercial vessels, and charter boats. Proposed changes include the attachment of battery powered lights and reflective material to all life jackets. The National Party Boat Alliance plans to send representation to Washington, D.C. The meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. in the:

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****

As part of its service to the community, Flotilla 13-11 of the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will be conducting a series of boating courses this fall.

The Twelve Lesson course will be on Small Boat Skills and Seamanship, Tuesday, October 4, 1977, 8:00 p.m., at Jonas E. Salk Junior High School, Levittown, Green Cafeteria, Wantagh Avenue and North Jerusalem Road.

In addition to the twelve (12) lesson course, there will be a four (4) week "Young Boatman's" course, starting at 8:00 p.m. the same evening. Youngsters ten years and over are invited to attend.

LIVE RADIO BROADCAST AT BOAT SHOW

WGBB Radio 1240-AM, the Island's only twenty-four hour AM radio station, will have its DJ's broadcasting live next to hundreds of fishing boats. The event is scheduled during the Second Annual Long Island Floating Boat Show from the Anchorage Marina in Lindenhurst. The **live on location broadcast** will take place on Friday, October 7 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and again on Sunday, October 9 from noon to 3:00 p.m. All fishermen should be aware that WGBB broadcasts marine tide and marine weather information at :18 after the hour.

The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOL. 12, No. 38 — OCTOBER 6th, 1977

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COMING NEXT WEEK:

North Shore BLACKFISH

About the Cover—

Henry "the Godfather" Colombi of the *Star Island Yacht Club* poses between two large white marlin in a scene reminiscent of sunnier climes. But this was Montauk 1977, one of the greatest years for white marlin fishing that Long Island's south shore has ever had. *Photo by Ian Hunt, courtesy of Star Island Yacht Club.*

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The LONG ISLAND FISHERMAN is published weekly, except for two weeks in December, by the L.I.F. Publishing Corporation, L.I.F. Building, Bridge St., P.O. Box 1994, Sag Harbor, New York 11963. Telephone (516) 725-4200. Second Class Postage is paid at Sag Harbor, N.Y. $.35 cents per copy, back issues $.50 per copy. *Subscriptions:* 1 Year, 50 Issues – $9.00; 2 Years, 100 Issues – $17.00; 3 Years, 150 Issues – $25.00. Photographs and written contributions are welcomed. Unsolicited contributions must be accompanied by a written request and a self-addressed stamped envelope. All consideration will be given these requests, however no responsibility on our part is assumed. Notice of change of address must include both the old and the new addresses. Please allow two weeks for the address change to be made.

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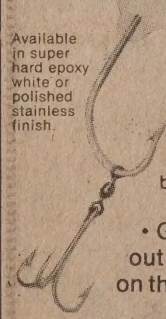

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★EDITOR'S HEAD★

★★★

CHUM LINES

NEW WIRE LINE MARKED WITH BEADS

In your September 15, 1977 issue of The Long Island Fisherman, on pages 14 and 15, you had an article "Trolling for Striped Bass."

The article mentioned ideas on marking wire line with telephone wire, waterproof tape and with paint (nail polish is also good).

All the above are good, but as you pointed out, each one has its drawbacks.

Well, now there is a monel wire out that has metal beads soldered every 50 feet. The first bead is at 50 feet; two beads at a 100 feet spaced one inch apart; one bead at 150 feet; two beads at 200 feet spaced two inches apart, and so on. It's great for night fishing, as you can feel the beads run through your fingers when letting line out.

The company that manufactures it is: Al's Goldfish Line Co., Indian Orchard, Mass. 01051, and I purchased it at: Beckmann's Fishing Tackle, 803 Sunrise Highway, Lynbrook.

Hope this may be of benefit to your readers.

A long-time subscriber to your fine paper, **Albert E. Ferreira.**

ASSEMBLYMAN FLANAGAN DISAPPOINTED THAT DR. MULLER WAS NOT CHOSEN FOR R.F.M.C.

Enclosed is a photocopy of a letter received from Judith Hope, Appointments Officer to the Governor, regarding the candidacy of Dr. William A. Muller to the Mid-Atlantic Regional Fisheries Management Council.

It is unfortunate that a man of Dr. Muller's background was not chosen for a seat on the Council, since his expertise would most certainly enhance its effectiveness. **John J. Flanagan**

We were also disappointed and for many of the same reasons. However, we are confident that, with the support of many prominent concerned citizens like yourself, Dr. Muller will be appointed next year. **Scott Simons.**

CLUB NEWS

BAY SHORE TUNA CLUB STRIPED BASS CONTEST

As an encore to a weekend contest for albacore, held Sept. 17th and 18th, the Bay Shore Tuna Club is planning a weekend Striped Bass Contest on October 8th and 9th. If you folks find any elusive striped animals, let us know!

HUNTINGTON ANGLERS' CLUB BLUEFISH DERBY

The Huntington Anglers' Club held a Bluefish Derby from Monday, Sept. 5 - 6 AM to Monday, Sept. 12 - 6 PM. Twenty-four members and guests participated. First prize went to Bill Ricca - 13 lbs. 7 oz., on live bunker, Cold Spring Harbor. Second prize went to Joe Nigro - 12 lbs. 6 oz. - umbrella rig and wire line - 11B. Third prize went to Frank Resta (guest) - 12 lbs. 2 oz. - umbrella rig and wire line - Eaton's Neck.

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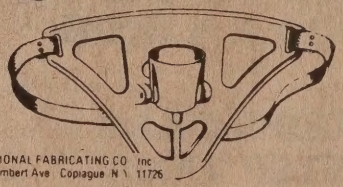
The Long Island **FISHERMAN FISHING TRIP CONTEST**

The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the rear window of your car. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received, the cash prize will accumulate.



★ ***Bonus Prize*** ★

Contest winners also will receive a NAFABCO GIMBAL ROD BELT. the new lightweight unbreakable plastic gimbal for boat & surf!!!

LAST WEEK'S WINNER:

Mr. Hayes called by the deadline to become the last winner of the contest. He won $40, a Nafabco Gimbal rod belt and a fishing trip for two aboard the Viking Starship at Montauk.

The L.I.F. Fishing Trip Contest has come to the end of it's run. Watch the pages of the magazine for future contests that will be run.

Weekly winners of the L.I.F. Litter Box Contest may chose a trip for two aboard one of the following boats as their prize:

MONTAUK	CAPTREE	SHEEPSHEAD BAY	NORTH SHORE
Viking Star	Speedy VI	Amberjack IV	Port Jeff Ace
Peconic Queen III	Capt. Ben Litwin	Chief	Betty W
Marlin III	Capt. Joseph Fleet	FREEPORT Aloma II	

Pass It On...

DEC REMINDS ANGLERS OF NEW REGULATIONS FOR FRESHWATER LICENSE

Herb Doig, Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, today reminded anglers that sportfishing regulations in New York State will be changed considerably, beginning with the new license year on October 1. Changes include season dates, method of taking, creel limits and minimum sizes. All the changes, Doig noted, are fully explained in the new Sportfishing Guide, available free at all license-issuing agents.

FESTIVAL OF THE SEA

October has been proclaimed **Festival of the Sea** month by the Officials of the Village of Greenport and the Town of Southold. Unique plans have been prepared for the Annual Festival of the Sea (formerly the Oyster Festival) and Nautical Craft exhibits, Saturday, October 8, 1977, rain or shine, from 10 AM to 5 PM, at the American Legion Hall, Third Street, Greenport, N.Y. (near the Railroad Station). Sponsored and paid for by the Greenport/Southold Chamber of Commerce.

Ample parking areas, marked by directional signs, are provided through the cooperation of private owners and Elected Officials, all within easy walking distance of the Festival.

A truly wonderful, enjoyable and educational holiday for every member of the family is in store. A modest admission price, $1.50 for adults and $1 for children, includes a free beer or coke, exhibits on clamming, oystering, scalloping, fish filleting, haul seining, trap fishing, oyster shucking demonstrations, free door prizes, souvenirs, and many other nautical craft exhibits. An Oyster Bar and other refreshments will be available.

Participating local restaurants will offer a special feature of our luscious Long Island Oysters.

Enjoy the last long weekend of this Indian Summer and you will remember it all winter, over and over again.

ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA NEW YORK SUMMARY

The Staten Island Tuna Club Tournament, held on Sept. 17 & 18, had three ABT weighed in. The contest winner was a 27 lb. bluefin, while a 17 lb. fish took second place. A third ABT was brought in, but weighed less than the Tournament minimum weight of 14 lbs. Most of the fishing was done at the HA and BA buoys.

Three ABT were landed in Freeport last week from boats fishing SW of the NB buoy. The school tuna weighed 27, 14, and 13 lbs. Several reports of other school tuna caught were received on our ABT postal reply cards. The majority of the fish caught last week were one and two-year-olds, weighing 14-30 lbs. Foul

weather during the week limited the catch of most boats.

A 96 lb. and a 54 lb. ABT were weighed in at Center Moriches. The fish were caught in 150 feet of water southwest of Moriches while chumming for sharks. The stomachs contained squid, crab claws and chum. Our thanks go to B&B Tackle Shop in Center Moriches for saving the heads and guts of these fish.

Tuna fishing in Montauk slowed considerably, although the quota for giant bluefin has been reopened. The only ABT landed last week was a 978 lb. tuna caught on 80 pound test line. The giants seem to have moved out of the Block Island Mudhole, but school tuna to 100 lbs. have been sighted there. A 57 lb. Wahoo was one of several southern water species that have been caught in 150-200 feet of water south of the Point.

REOPENING OF BLUEFIN TUNA FISHERY

William G. Gordon, Gloucester, Massachusetts Regional Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service, announced the reopening of the fishery for bluefin tuna weighin in excess of 300 pounds and taken by gear other than purse seines, in the regulatory area west of a line drawn from a point on the southern coast of Massachusetts, due south through Gay Head Light into the Atlantic Ocean. This reopening will be effective at 0001 hours, local time, September 16, 1977.

This fishery was closed when the National Marine Fisheries Service landings records and projections of catch indicated that the quota of 150 fish assigned to the area would be taken by September 9, 1977. Mr. Gordon noted that subsequent analysis of catch data submitted by fishermen show that fifty-nine fish were taken from the area prior to the closure and therefore, the fishery is being reopened in this area to permit the harvesting of additional fish up to the 150 giant fish quota. Fishermen will be allowed to take no more than seven fish per week during the remaining portion of the giant bluefin tuna fishery. The fishery for tuna weighing more than 300 pounds taken by gear other than purse seines in the regulatory area north and east of the Gay Head Light was closed on September 5, 1977, and is unaffected by this reopening.

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★ Show is at "The Anchorage" in Lindenhurst, Oct. 7-10 ★

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COASTAL DIVING ACADEMY HELPS FISHERMEN

Responding to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's call for placement of a buoy to benefit offshore fishermen, thirteen divers from Coastal Diving Academy in Bay Shore, Long Island, volunteered to descend 72 feet on September 15 to anchor the eight-foot-long buoy marking the Kismet Ocean Reef.

Coastal Diving Academy's boat, the research vessel Black Coral, piloted by Captain Robert Hersey, served as communications center and base during the dive. Preparations for the dive began on board where shackles were attached to the 75-foot-long chains for easier reef attachment. Then, using a blackboard and diagrams, instructor Bob Wright lectured the divers on underwater procedures for the dive.

At the scene, a crew of research divers surveyed the man-made reef, determining tie-on points for the buoy. After reporting their findings back aboard the Black Coral, the buoy was lowered chain first into the Atlantic, near the attachment point. The divers then re-entered the water and attached it directly over the reef. Although a 1.5 foot tidal change occurs at this spot, the buoy's secure attachment on taut chains prevents it from shifting.

Using an orange-and-white buoy supplied by the Department of Environmental Conservation, the divers completed the job in two hours. The buoy is marked "Reef" and extends approximately two feet out of the water.

It marks the one-mile-long reef which runs parallel to Fire Island's shore, about three miles from the old Fire Island lighthouse. The reef is a favorite habitat for fluke, sea bass, cod, eel pout, lobster, blackfish, and flounder. Coastal Diving Academy placed the buoy as a community service to Long Island fishermen and divers.

Coastal Diving Academy in Bay Shore, is one of the nation's leading diver training centers. Courses in all areas of basic and advanced sport diving leading to NAUI, PADI, and YMCA certification and commercial deep-sea diving are offered.

NATIONAL SCENE

NEWS & NOTES ON THE WORLD OF FISHING
with Al Ristori

The PMP for mackerel authorizing 34,000 metric tons for foreign fleets was roundly criticized at last week's meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council in Ocean City, Maryland. The council made its position in opposition to the PMP crystal clear in the following statement submitted by Executive Director John Bryson at the public meeting conducted by NMFS at Ocean City:

Public Hearing Statement on Proposed Rule Making Under P.L. 94-265, The Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 - 50 CFR Part 611, Foreign Fishing.

The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council would like to go on record as strenuously opposing the adoption of proposed amendments to foreign fishing regulations for Atlantic mackerel as published in the Federal Register, Volume 42, Number 175 on September 9, 1977. The foreign fishing regulations for Atlantic mackerel, as proposed, provide for a directed harvest of 34,000 metric tons by foreign nations in the United States Zone in 1978. This does not include the amount the Canadian Government may allocate within the Canadian Zone. Any directed foreign fishery for Atlantic mackerel of this magnitude in 1978, and in the near future there after, if permitted in the view of the Mid-Atlantic Council, will violate the intent of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 and jeopardize achievement of objectives being recommended for the fishery by the Mid-Atlantic Council.

Based on catch statistics, surveys, and research by the National Marine Fisheries Service, which constitutes the best available scientific evidence, and references to the Act and Council objectives, the allegations cited above are supported by the following points:

1) The present spawning stock size of mackerel is 435,000 metric tons, or the lowest observed in at least 15 years; if this low spawning stock size is to be just maintained, and not improved, in 1979, the total foreign and domestic catch in 1978, over the entire range of the species, should not exceed about 15,000 metric tons.

2) The probable unregulated catch of mackerel by United States recreational and commercial fisheries and the Canadian fishery in 1978 is projected to be at least 25,000 metric tons; in 1970, the combined United States and Canadian catch of Atlantic mackerel amounted to over 50,000 metric tons.

3) The Mid-Atlantic Council has set objectives and will soon recommend these objectives to the Secretary of Commerce for the Atlantic mackerel fishery, one of which is to provide the opportunity for increased recreational and commercial catch by United States fishermen. In order to achieve the objective, the Mid-Atlantic Council believes spawning stock size must be rebuilt to and maintained at about 750,000 metric tons.

4) Allocation of an additional foreign catch in 1978 of 34,000 tons over and above expected United States and Canadian catch, will result in an approximate 10 percent decrease in spawning stock size in 1979 and will constitute excessive overfishing in 1978.

5) A purpose of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act, among others, is to prevent overfishing and to promote domestic commercial and recreational fishing opportunities by sound conservation and management principles.

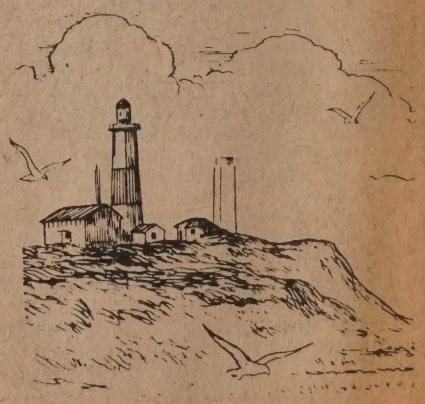
In summary, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council strongly urges that no directed foreign fishing for mackerel be permitted in 1978, and that steps are taken by the Secretary of Commerce to ensure that foreign by-catches of this species be minimized to the greatest extent possible. Any foreign allocation of mackerel at this time will reduce spawing stocks to low levels, will suppress U.S. fishing opportunities, will undermine the Council's objective of rebuilding stock size, and in the view of the Mid-Atlantic Council will circumvent the Act.

The Mid-Atlantic Council has prepared a fishery management plan for mackerel that was reviewed at the latest meeting and approved for public hearings. As soon as it is printed, the FMP will be submitted to the Federal Register. Twenty days after publicaton the hearing process can begin. Though the plan as presently constituted isn't set in concrete, we are rushing it out in order to forstall the foreign fishery. When finally approved, the FMP will supersede the PMP. The proposed FMP prohibits any directed foreign fishery on mackerel, though a 1200 metric ton by-catch is permitted in other allowed foreign fisheries. The U.S. recreational catch is figured at 10,000 metric tons (twice what it's been during the last two depressed years, but still less than ⅓ of the catch when stocks were at their peak) and the domestic commercial fishery is limited to 3,000 metric tons. The low domestic figure is about 50 percent over the current harvest and is purposely low—as we don't want to encourage a new domestic effort on mackerel while we're trying to rebuild the stocks.

The latter is a real possibility if the foreign fleet is cut off. The representative of an American controlled international fishing company appeared at this meeting to plead for 30,000 metric tons of mackerel he'd like to export to West Africa. Right now his company is buying the mackerel from the Soviet Union. Ironically, Commerce's PMP is seeking to protect the Russians mackerel fishery which is producing American dollars for them, rather than permitting American fishermen to harvest our resource. The council takes the position that no overfishing should occur on this depleted stock, but you can be sure that if we were to permit overfishing the benefit would go to American fishermen!

Enough has been said about the mackerel situation in the last two weeks. Unfortunately, we were unable to get a public meeting in our area. The only meetings held were in New Bern, North Carolina; Ocean City, Maryland; and Peabody, Massachusetts. Therefore, it's essential that as many letters as possible be received from this area. The deadline is October 6. If you haven't written yet, do it right now! Send your letter or telegram to Mr. Bill Gordon, Regional Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Federal Building, 14 Elm St., Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930.

At this same meeting the Mid-Atlantic Council also reviewed the other PMP's and approved for public hearings a proposed FMP for squid. There isn't any great difference in philosophy between the PMP and FMP for squid, but we are trying to keep our FMP on track with the mackerel plan in order that public hearings may be held at the same time. Just as was the case last year, our primary concern with the squid fishery is preventing the excessive by-catch rates that occur primarily in the winter, when sea bass, porgies, and fluke are concentrated on the edge of the continental shelf in the squid window areas. We've already urged some changes in the windows, and are trying to make more substantial alterations. The big problem we face now is a prohibition in the regulations on foreign fishing between 100 and 200 fathoms. This was put in at the insistance of some politicians who were taking care of a few deep water lobster fishermen. Unfortunately, it also prevents us from moving the squid windows into deeper water, thereby avoiding the sport fish by-catch problem. Hopefully, we'll get the support we need during the hearings to be able to drop that regulation.

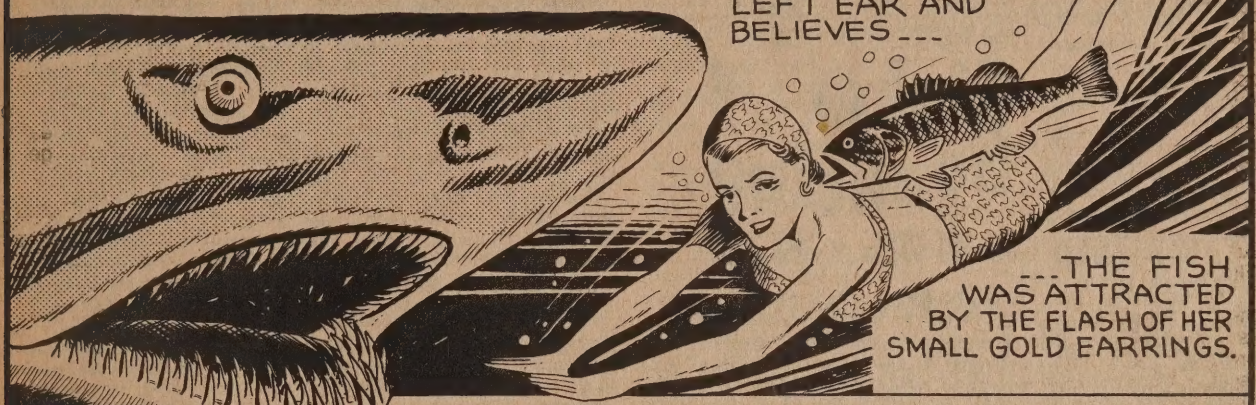


FISH & MARINE NEWS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

FISH UNLIMITED TAXIDERMY IS UNIQUE IN THAT THE L.I. BASED SHOP USES REAL SKIN MOUNTS TO PRESERVE YOUR FISH. OWNER AND VETERAN FISHERMAN JEFF SCHNEIDER GIVES A LIFETIME GUARANTEE.

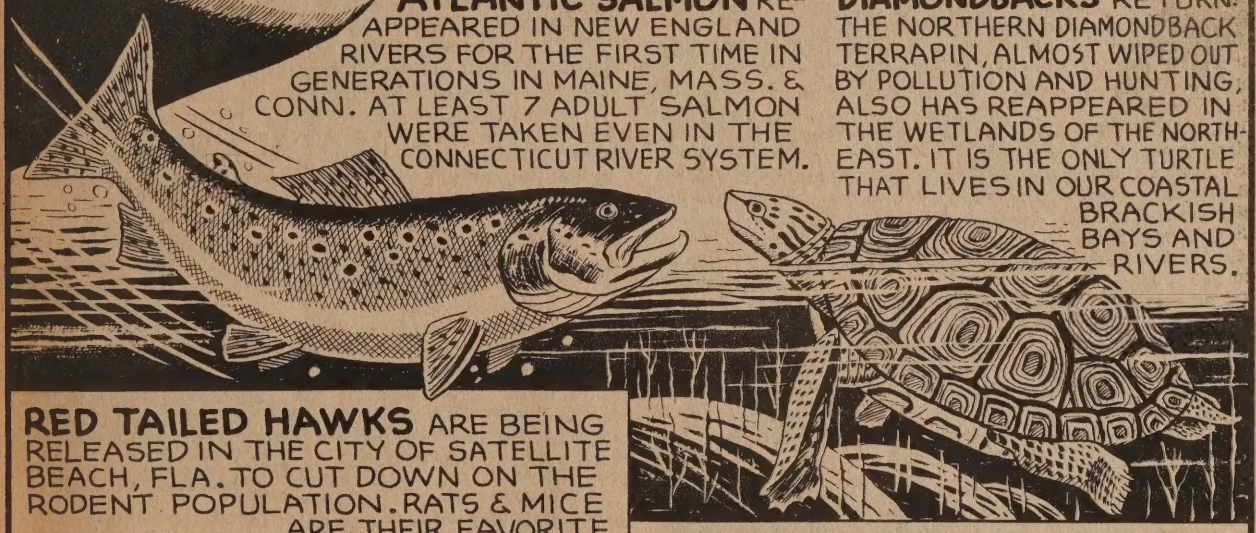
BLACK BASS ATTACKS WOMAN WHO DOVE FROM A FLOAT IN A VERMONT POND. SHE WAS NICKED UNDER THE LEFT EAR AND BELIEVES ---



---THE FISH WAS ATTRACTED BY THE FLASH OF HER SMALL GOLD EARRINGS.

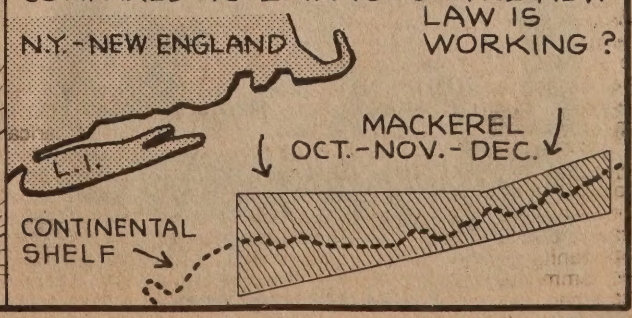
ATLANTIC SALMON RE-APPEARED IN NEW ENGLAND RIVERS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN GENERATIONS IN MAINE, MASS. & CONN. AT LEAST 7 ADULT SALMON WERE TAKEN EVEN IN THE CONNECTICUT RIVER SYSTEM.

DIAMONDBACKS RETURN! THE NORTHERN DIAMONDBACK TERRAPIN, ALMOST WIPED OUT BY POLLUTION AND HUNTING, ALSO HAS REAPPEARED IN THE WETLANDS OF THE NORTH-EAST. IT IS THE ONLY TURTLE THAT LIVES IN OUR COASTAL BRACKISH BAYS AND RIVERS.



RED TAILED HAWKS ARE BEING RELEASED IN THE CITY OF SATELLITE BEACH, FLA. TO CUT DOWN ON THE RODENT POPULATION. RATS & MICE ARE THEIR FAVORITE FOOD.

WHERE THE FOREIGN FLEETS CAN FISH FOR MACKEREL ALONG THE CONTINENTAL SHELF DURING OCT., NOV., DEC. INSIDE THE 200 MILE LIMIT - EXCEPT THE U.S.S.R. WHICH USED UP ITS QUOTA LAST WINTER. 67 FOREIGN VESSELS FISHED THE U.S. COAST IN JULY - COMPARED TO 21 IN 1976. THE NEW LAW IS WORKING ?



Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

Fall Flounder Fishing

I'm always glad to note the arrival of October. A great many fishermen, however, bemoan this fact. They visualize their fishing activity rapidly coming to a close now that the cold breath of winter is waiting in the wings. But not me. I know the opportunity to enjoy good fishing is close at hand: flounder, blackfish, cod, ling, whiting—you name it—some of the year's best fishing is on tap.

Nowhere is this more apparent than throughout the bays and creeks of Long Island where flounder now reign supreme. Not that our fellow anglers in New Jersey and New England are left by the wayside; certainly they, too, enjoy excellent flounder fishing. But at the risk of standing corrected, I'll say Long Island is the flounder fisherman's paradise. If you can't catch flounder on Long Island, you aren't trying very hard.

Are you ready for this fall fishing? You ought to be, for this is the season good-sized flounder are available with little strain or pain. Rarely do fishermen catch those throwbacks so common in spring. Because cold water hasn't curtailed their feeding activities, fall flounder are fat and scrappy. It matters not if fishing is done from shore, rental skiffs, private craft, or party boats—fall flounder are hungry and active. And this is what gives the angler many opportunities to score.

If you are an old hand at the flounder game—cease reading. There isn't a thing that I can tell you that you don't already know. But if you're a newcomer to the sport, read on and I'll try my best to get you a few flounder. There is only one requirement: pay strict attention to what is read. Everything is set down here for good reason.

You'll find nothing adds more fun to flounder fishing than the use of proper tackle. Notice I didn't say it will help you catch flounder—knowledge of the fish and its feeding methods do that. Actually, you can catch flounder on tackle ranging from handlines to heavy codfishing stuff—but you won't have much fun doing it.

To get the most enjoyment out of flounder fishing, use light tackle. And in this respect, nothing beats a light spinning rod and a matching reel filled with good quality six to eight pound test monofilament line. This is the stuff that allows a flounder to put up rugged resistance as it darts and runs, twists and turns in its frantic efforts to regain safety. As many fishermen before you have discovered, flounder are good scrappers when given half a chance.

Because flounder fishing is best where tidal currents are slow-moving, light bank-style sinkers can be used. Seldom are sinkers heavier than two ounces required. You may even find backwater creeks where as little as one ounce will get by. The less weight you use, the more fun you will have. Few flounder can do battle with six or eight ounces of lead anchored to its jaw. If you find such weights necessary to hold bottom, make up you mind you are fishing in the wrong place. Experienced fishermen may get by in such areas, but rarely will the beginner.

We now come to the most important part of your tackle—the hook. It never ceases to amaze me that countless fishermen have little interest in hooks. You may be sure that these are the fishermen who rarely do a good job on the fish. The next time you spot some "lucky" guy bailing fish, ask him to give you his thoughts on fish hooks. If he doesn't overwhelm you with his knowledge, I'll take up some sane sport like golf or tennis. This expert angler will agree that all the knowledge needed to put fish in the bucket will come to naught should he fail to use the correct hook. Just as there is a special hook for blackfish, there is also one for flounder.

Because of the flounder's habit of taking the bait deep within its mouth, the hook to use is called the Chestertown—or just plain flounder hook. Chestertowns are long-shanked, making a deeply swallowed hook easier to remove. These are available in sizes from two to ten, with the size decreasing as the numbers increase.

Don't let this bit of confusion throw you. Just ask for Number Nine Chestertown hooks, and you may be sure they'll handle any flounder swimming in local waters at this time of year.

Because double-headers are common, it is best to use two hooks. Don't bother with flounder spreaders; instead, tandem-tie your two hooks in this manner: bend the snell of one hook at its middle, then pass this fold through the knotted loop of the second hook. Then run this second hook through the fold of the first hook and secure with an overhand knot.

This takes but seconds to accomplish and assures that your hooks are always on bottom where they must be to catch flounder. Place the completed rig on the main line about two inches above the sinker. Make this attaching loop with a simple double-overhand knot. I would suggest you practice several times until tying a tandem rig becomes second nature.

Some fishermen shun the double-overhand knotted loop, claiming it causes a potential weak spot in the line. They are right, of course, although such a knot will cause little trouble when flounder fishing.

Therefore, if you wish, you can use a 1/0 three-way swivel tied in with an improved clinch knot. To make this knot, simply run the end of your main line through one of the swivel rings and fold the short piece back about four inches and twist it five or six turns around itself. Take the short end and insert it in the loop nearest the swivel eye, then back through the larger loop you will have formed by doing this. Pull up slowly,

(Continued on page 11.)

A typical catch of fall flounder.

A correctly tied tandem-rig will produce double-headers.

Surf Side

with

Joseph Mc Cabe

AUTUMN AT ATLANTIC BEACH

The seven to nine weeks from the end of September to Thanksgiving mark the height of the southeastern migration of stripers from the Maritime Provinces of Canada to the Chesapeake Bay and further south to northern Florida. The summer doldrums and their accompanying state of inactivity have ended the the relative inactivity of August changes from the rare cow caught on clam bellies, to a frenzy of fish caught on an enormously wide variety of baits, tins, and plugs. It is during this period of time that the jetties of Atlantic Beach are traversed by numerous "jetty jocks" in search of Long Island's most important marine game fish. Each of the stone jetties is bristling with tall, silhouetted figures holding or casting thinner silhouetted striper sticks.

The locals have developed their own rules of the game concerning equipment, clothing, and fishing techniques. First, and foremost: only a fool walks or fishes the moss and barnacled-covered boulders without a sturdy pair of "creepers." Even the most experienced fishermen of Atlantic Beach have sustained serious injury and/or broken equipment resulting from slips on the slimy green carpet which covers the vast majority of boulders. Second, one will consistently catch the "long head" if fishing between dusk and dawn. It is generally conceded that striper fishing during hours outside this time sequence will be—to say the least—nearly totally unrewarding. Third, since the striper is not a regularly scheduled feeder and is at times extremely selective in its diet, it is imperative that a variety of natural baits, tins, and plugs be tried.

The bass is intensely erratic in feeding. For a considerable period of time it will feed on one single species of bait, and then for no demonstrable reason, will switch to another food source on the change of a single tide.

It is only on the rarest of occasions that Atlantic Beach "jetty" walkers use eels for bait. In its place, clam belly is much preferred. A short distance to the east at Lido Beach and at Nassau Town Beach, live eel is, with few exceptions, the only bait employed.

Over the years, I have either used or observed other successful fishermen using the following variety of baits: menhaden, squid, sea worms, clam bellies, a variety of crabs, flounder, mussels, shrimp, and snapper. One of the more esoteric baits used in conjunction with a fish finder rig, is a piece of fresh lobster. Expensive? Hell yes! But, it is a proven producer.

Numerous popping plugs are employed, especially at dusk; metal jigs armed with a single hook and a yellow buck or feather tail are the rule. I have never known any consistent "jetty-jock" to use a treble hook on any metal lure. Remember that lures run the whole gamut—surface, sub-surface, and bottom bouncers.

Surf sticks tend to be shorter here, with eight to nine footers being the norm; eleven and twelve footers are rarely employed. However, as you move further east through Long Beach, Lido and finally Nassau-Point Lookout, the larger sticks are standard.

The majority of the stripers that are hooked from the jetties are beached. It is only in the case of schoolies that fish are brought in on the rocks. Many a prize fish has been lost when the mono is cut by the rocks and razor-like shells. The trick is to "walk" a fish back along the rocks to the beach without either sustaining serious injury, or losing the fish against the rocks or in the breakers. Here a word of caution must be added: throughout the last several seasons, the locals have taken to wearing flotation jackets in case of accident. Forewarned is forearmed.

Set a moderate reel drag and then don't touch it again. You will lose the fish if you keep a tight reel drag. Proportion the drag to the thrust of a twenty to twenty-five pounder. Remember that stray blues will also be mixed in with migrating stripers. Be prepared!

Work the fish while a breaker is carrying it towards the shore. Allow it to drop back after the wave has crested and is receding. With practice, you can "ride" the fish onto the beach. Immediately retrieve your white bellied striper and lift or drag it above the high water mark. Don't attempt to "muscle" it ashore, or all is lost.

There is an exhilaration and mystique, the experience of standing upon a water-swept jetty with white water all around. The whiter the water, the better! The sky is soupy grey and the wind blows gusts of icy spray upon your face and hands. Enjoy these rare moments when there is nothing else but you and the fish—you belong, here and now. The sense of well-being is both therapeutic and invigorating. Savor it!

Sinker Bouncing: FALL FLOUNDER
(Continued from page 10.)

seating the knot firmly against the swivel. Cut off any surplus about one-eighth inch from the knot.

When properly tied, this knot will not slip—in fact, the mono will part before the knot lets go. The sinker is hung on the bottom ring in the same manner by first placing it on an individual short piece of mono and then tying it to the swivel with a clinch knot.

The improved clinch knot is an excellent knot to learn and you will find many uses for it. For instance: you can quickly attach leader material to loose hooks and come up with a serviceable job in emergencies. Although once the fishing bug bites you, I'm sure you will want to learn how to snell your hooks with the professional barrel knot. This is a more complicated procedure and information can be found in Issue #37, 1974. If interested, check Page Three on how to order back copies.

Bait is no problem, as fall flounder will greedily accept sand and bloodworms. Later as the water cools, say about mid-November, you will find that clams produce—especially fresh skimmer. Always make sure the clam is cut into narrow, thin slices.

Don't forget the flounder's mouth is small, but not so small that it cannot accept inch-and-a-half pieces of bait. You will catch more flounder if you keep this in mind. Also, when using clam, make sure some of the soft stomach remains with the bait. This is what flounder relish. Always expose the hook about one third of an inch from the end. Flounder never notice the hook and it ensures instant hooking. You won't go wrong if you use the same method with worm bait.

When the water cools, you will find it best to carry two different kinds of bait. Any combination of clam and worm or mussel and worm will give you the edge over those fishermen who don't think that far ahead.

If you have any thought of using chum, I would wait until the water has definitely cooled off. If not, your chum will draw infant sea robins, blowfish, sea bass, porgies, etc. Consider chumming a must for spring fishing, but not so necessary in early fall.

Look for flounder in the deeper parts of your fishing area. When shore fishing, always cast to the deepest places possible and keep moving until you locate fish. This is important, as flounder must be hunted. Once you get that first one, more will follow.

Oh ... one more thing. Because bays and creeks still contain some of summer's lingering warmth, you'll find those flounder you catch now will seldom toy with the bait. They nip at it and go, making it necessary for you to have full control over your tackle. A quick upward lift of the rod tip, when done with a smart snap of the wrist, will hook more flounder than that savage yank employed by many anglers.

"But," I can hear you say, "you said flounders take in the bait deep and a long-shanked hook was important for easier hook removal. Now you tell me they nip and go ...What gives?"

Nothing "gives," really (I'm glad to see you've been paying attention.) It's only the way flounder—or any fish—react to the influence of water temperature. You can see now that there is more to flounder fishing than meets the eye; more to it than just getting bait on bottom and reeling in the fish. But I've given you the basics and if you follow them, you'll catch flounder. For a more detailed description of flounder fishing, I suggest you secure a copy of Dr. William Muller's "Fishing for Flounder." It is informative and you may be sure it will answer many of your questions.

INSHORE FISHING

with Doc Grell

HAVE YOU HIT THESE YET?

★ PART ONE ★

If you are an inshore troller, blackfish angler, or an offshore fisherman who returns to home port by way of Jones Inlet or Fire Island Inlet running your boat just off the beach, you should be deeply and vitally aware of two major wrecks: the Drumelzier and Rhoda wrecks, whose remains lie in very shallow water. Major destruction is a most definite possibility if you bump into these two "gals." These two wrecks, since the early 1900s, have probably accounted for more destruction and financial loss to boats than you would believe possible. An amazing characteristic of these two wrecks is that most fishermen and mariners who have any knowledge about Fire Island and Jones Beach inshore waters know these wrecks exist; see them frequently; troll by them; anchor near them, and then forget about them at a time when they should remember them and realize their destructive potential. The most amazing feature of these wrecks is the fact that you do not need thick fog or high tides in order to strike them. Some of the most interesting collisions have taken place in broad daylight. The reasons given by skippers for hitting these wrecks range from the credible to the most absurd. They are stories unto themselves—many of which no victim really enjoys retelling.

THE DRUMELZIER OR FIRE ISLAND WRECK:

The Drumelzier wreck lies in ten feet of water about 500 feet off Robert Moses State Park, about one-half mile east of Democrat Point. The rudder quadrant of this six-hundred-foot steamship wreck protrudes about four feet above the surface (see pictures of surface structures and chart) and appears to Robert Moses State Park beach walkers and bathers as "Bull Moose horns." The protruding section of the rudder quadrant is a rugged and jagged piece of iron hull structure which is easily covered with high tides or with any type of ocean swell, breakers or a running sea. This section of the wreck is a major obstacle to shallow water navigation in this area (see chart location).

The wreck itself is readily accessible to the strong beach swimmer and makes an interesting place to snorkel and skin dive around when there is a calm ocean. Pictures of the wreck were taken under ideal conditions at low tide. In summer months, the snorkeler and skin diver can see a variety of tropical marine fish which wander here from the Gulf Stream. Warm weather visitors include: small jack crevalles, trigger fish, trunkfish, sergeant majors, remoras and pilot fish, to cite a few. Beneath the rudder quadrant itself one can see numerous blackfish—usually small, and occasionally large ones, in addition to smaller species of shiners, killiefish and bergalls. Bottom dwellers in the area include: various members of the skate family, midshipman fish, monkfish and angler fish. Occasional sandbar, blue and brown sharks have been observed in this area. At given times of the year, these waters abound with fluke and the species previously mentioned. The presence of these species in waters close to shore, in the relative protection of the beach, is part of the magnetism of fishing the Drumelzier area whether it be via trolling, casting, or bottom fishing.

However, when rough seas are present, with good size waves fetching from the west, southwest, south, southeast, east or northeast, the Drumelzier becomes completely submerged and must be watched like a hawk. She awaits her blind date—the unsuspecting mariner or fisherman who is returning to Fire Island Inlet within the "safety" of the beach. Needless to say, this piece of wreckage will skin the bottom off your boat like peeling wet Kleenex off a glass plate. If you are interested in particulars, give me a call. The Drumelzier is indeed a menacing and treacherous piece of wreckage that all Fire Island boatmen must constantly be aware of. Its location should be pinpointed on your chart and marked accordingly with depth and compass headings.

WHAT IS THE DRUMELZIER

The Drumelzier, or Fire Island Wreck as some call it, is one of the very few outbound wrecks (out of New York)—if not the only one, of literally hundreds found in our waters. The Drumelzier was a British steamship of 600 feet which ran aground on a Fire Island Bar in broad daylight on December 26, 1904, having sailed out of Brooklyn on Christmas Day. Legend has it that the crew was so disturbed at shipping out on Christmas Day that they started celebrating early and continued their celebration up to the time that they ran aground.

At any rate, whether the crew was drunk or sober, the skipper refused to be towed off Fire Island Bar since he was convinced that he could back off the bar without tug assistance. Nature compounded the grounding problem with a raging northeaster and a blinding snowstorm the following day. This storm, which raged for four days, spelled death to the Drumelzier as she became firmly embedded in the Fire Island Bar about two-and-a-half miles from the Oak Island Life Saving Station. She began to break up. Her crew first declined the aid of surfmen, but finally were rescued by the wrecking and salvage vessel Merrit, which managed to place a lifeboat in the water which finally reached the Drumelzier when she was in her death rattle. The crew was safely taken off with the lifeboat navigating the beach in a raging surf. Fire Island, Oak Island and Point of Woods lifesaving crews aided in the rescue.

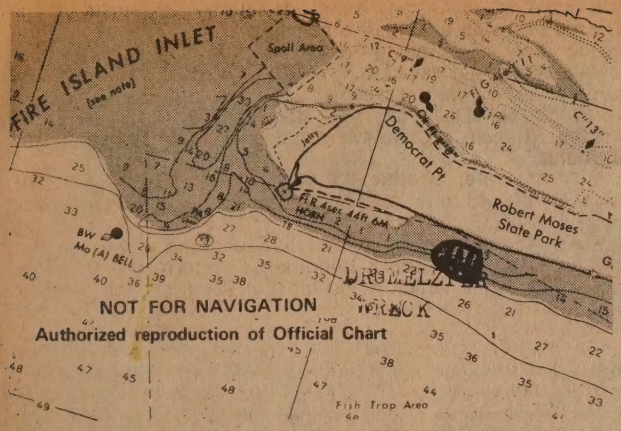
The Drumelzier broke up and since 1904, has worked itself well inshore from the point where she struck. She now lies buried in the sand off Robert Moses State Park with only her rudder quadrant awash. She does not block a navigational waterway and, therefore, she does not come under the jurisdiction of the Army Engineers. She is listed and indicated on U. S. Commerce Chart 120-SC.

In her death, the Drumelzier still lives, both as a hazard to be contended with, and as an ecological niche for our piscatorial friends who inhabit and visit her. It would make interesting history to study the record of all those boats that have struck her since her demise. Knowing about this gal's location should be given top priority by all those fishermen who frequent her neighborhood.

BLACKFISHING THE DRUMELZIER

Blackfishing at the Drumelzier is best directly beneath the rudder quadrant at high tide. I would tie my small Boston Whaler directly to the rudder quadrant. To eliminate damage to the boat from mild ocean surges, I used to cover the top of the quadrant with a large piece of old carpeting. Even with ideal sea conditions, I long ago realized the futility of catching blackfish who do not move too far away from their ecological niche under the treacherous rudder quadrant. This area, by the way, is the only spot you will catch blackfish of any size. To throw your rigs from a distance into the quadrant itself will give you good casting practice and will make the bait and tackle boys happy. Still there is a challenge and magnetic attraction to the Drumelzier that some blackfishermen can't pass up. It is to these fishermen that I offer some safe suggestions.

It is imperative that those who accept this challenge make



careful note of wind, swell size, and current direction before setting anchor. I have seen numerous blackfishermen set their anchors twenty-five to fifty feet south of the wreck with a south or southwest wind blowing, only to find themselves several minutes later being thrown against or heaved onto the quadrant with a large roller or breaker. I have also witnessed fishermen who have anchored north of the Drumelzier finding themselves buried under a large breaker which washed directly over the wreck. Remember, depending upon sea and tide conditions, the Drumelzier can be found in the outermost surf line where the first waves crest—food for thought and something for your eyes to watch out for. Again, for the masochistic fisherman who rises to this challenge: my advice is to anchor on the east or west side of the rudder quadrant and cast your terminal tackle (make it heavy, thirty or forty pound test mono) under the quadrant. Bring plenty of rigs and if you catch a ten pound blackfish, call me and reverse the charges.

For snorkelers and skin divers who employ boats, the anchoring procedure is the same as above. By no means leave your boat unattended. With integrated problems of littoral drift and changes of tides, currents and winds, it is amazing where you might find your boat. Employment of two anchors is not a bad idea in this situation. I only wish that I had the picture of the inexperienced divers who several years ago caught a "big league" swell on the south side of the Drumelzier. In seconds, this diving safari ended up with the swell directly on top of the rudder quadrant with most of their diving gear falling through the bottom of their boat, which had been ripped out by the collision. Needless to say, they now had something to dive for. Their boat, within several minutes, was heaved free and promptly sunk. Ridiculous, but true. My boat pulled them out of the water.

PRECAUTIONS FOR FISHERMEN AND RETURN TRIPPERS

For the solitary troller of bluefish, stripers, weakfish and bonita in these waters, do not drive your boat forward while you are looking towards the stern. Keep your eyes on the Drumelzier.

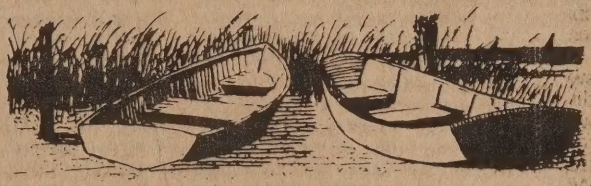
For the bikini and bathing beauty watcher who is more intent on looking at the beach than he is at the water, go find a girl friend or if you have one, bring her with you. Pay attention to where you are.

If you are returning from a distant offshore trip via Fire Island Inlet and accustomed to running the beach in shallow water, confine this shallow water running to the fifty-five foot depths. Stay out of the ten to fifteen foot depths, running just beyond the breakers. Remember, if you are returning from the east, you not only have the Drumelzier to contend with, but also the Sunrise Fish Company Pound Nets which also are located and stretched out perpendicular to shore in fifteen to fifty feet of water off Robert Moses State Park.

If you find yourself returning in thick, pea soup fog in this area **STOP** or if you must proceed, do so with **extreme caution.**

If you plan on visiting the Drumelzier on a dead calm day do not grab any part of the rudder quadrant without wearing heavy gloves. The marine line, consisting of barnacles layered onto pig iron from the year 1904 will give your hands (without gloves) the feeling that you have just grabbed a handful of razor blades. The same warnings apply to the inexperienced skin diver who must touch everything he sees.

Skin divers should also be aware of the ocean surges that ebb and flood, swish and swash through the metallic sectors of the quadrant itself. Although located in extremely shallow water, the inexperienced diver coming up under any piece of the quadrant, could easily end up with a head full of nasty slashes and cuts. Again, the watchword is **caution.**



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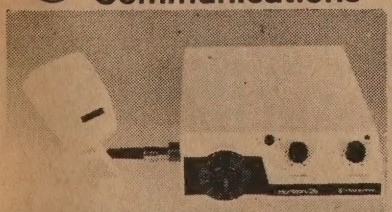

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How It Begins

by Louise Meidinger

Early this spring, a friend stopped by on his way home from a fishing trip. Proudly, he flourished two good-sized striped bass in front of my husband—and that is how it began for me. My introduction into the world of fishing. I suppose it happens to other women in a similar manner. The best advice I can offer is to go along with him girl, go along—it's your misfortune. He's destined to comb—comb the waves, that is. In the perennial/eternal search for that elusive creature: the **BIG** striped bass!

Your man is a victim of a peculiar malady called Striped Bass Madness. He will discover someone with a picture in the paper, smug smirk on his face, straining to hold up a fish that seems to be as big as he is. The caption reads along these lines: "He caught it himself. With an itsy-bitsy pole and a spool of thread. Piece of fish for bait—nothing to it." One look at that picture and your boy is gone.

He's got the fever. He will rush out to the beach—not the beach that is just a short mile away. The fish are never there, you must know. They are at the beach that is at least fifty miles away, maybe. And you soon find out that that was yesterday. Today, they are at the other beach. Then he has to put on waders that go "swish-plunk swish-plunk" with each step he takes, as he doggedly walks the sands and casts his lure, eel, bunker, worm, clam, or whatever a fishing tout he meets tells him to use. I've been assured that this guy is an expert. He **saw** a bass caught, at least thirty pounds. And I believe it. After all, the man is so excited he forgot to button the suspenders on his waders and he fell down running to the surf because the fish are running—right now!

I was inveigled to come along, tempted with the promise of the fringe benefits of salty sea breezes, sunset on foamy waves, sea glass and shells on a beach that will almost be mine alone. Shared with a few hope-eternal fishermen.

It does happen! My husband did snare a big one! The triumph and exhilaration are fantastic. It has been worth all the effort. The end result is an even more ingrained determination. Now he no longer wants to catch just any old fish; now it has progressed to "more and bigger."

I've settled for old boots and hand-me-down fatigues, but I can't help wondering if I would look as sexy in lightweight waders as the lady fisherman, fisherwoman? I met. Combined with a bright red or yellow slicker—perhaps blue. And I don't mind being taken to dinner at Jones Beach restaurant, to wait for the right tide. Fishing is solving some of my Christmas problems, too. No fisherman ever has enough hooks and et cetera—especially the et cetera.

But—if he gallantly lets you cast a few, be careful. Your own downfall is near. The rod was light and balanced easily; less cumbersome than I expected. The reel controls the line and my cast made me feel pretty accomplished. I just might catch one myself. With a little practice, I bet I could reach out to where those silly fish are playing. It's happened to me: I caught the fever. From now on, don't call me Waiting Winnie, just call me Surfing Susie, the happy fish-hooker.

It was a good season. I never caught a bass, but there will be more chances. I did learn a lot. All about watching the birds work, and where crabs abound—no fish around. Or, heavy grass—no bass. I like to use lures; they are not as heavy as live bait and they don't smell. Of course, if someone uses something else and succeeds in catching a big one, I'll try it too. And I pick only the nicer weather and reasonable hours. Well, perhaps I did get up before daybreak a few times to try my luck at first light. First light—that's a nice phrase, isn't it? My husband? He is turning into a fishing nut or a nutty fisherman—take your pick. The other night, we were discussing the political situation and somehow he put in sentences on insulated underwear and codfishing. Codfishing? In the cold? Not me, I'm sensible. I wonder if ski underwear is warmer. No. No. And that's how it begins. **Surfing Susie.**

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MERCURY OUTBOARDS

PARTY BOAT FLOUNDER FILLETS

by George Gerhold

Years back, my old mating days taught me a method of filleting flounder which I found definitely quicker, and conserves a lot more of the meat. The common method employed by most fishermen nowadays, is time consuming and on the smaller fish, is almost nonsensical. The Colonel's idea of finger-lick'n good chicken is great, but a fillet finger-lick'n size is not my idea of a good meal. At any rate, trying to secure four pieces of fillet from a small flounder is just too much work and leaves one with a small amount of return. I haven't been near a party boat in over fifteen years, but I'm certain many mates still use the method I was taught, because it beats any other way I've ever seen. The method is simple.

Invert the fish, bottoms up. Make a diagonal cut across from the stomach cavity to the opposite side of the fish (as in the attached drawing, from A to B), but do not completely decapitate the flounder. Then, along each side, parallel to the fin, following the contour of the fish, again make two cuts (B to C and A to D). Pick the fish up in the same position with your right hand, holding the head and your thumb directly in back of the first cut you made. Take your left hand and place it on the opposite side of the cut and break the backbone of the fish. With your left thumb, press into the cut and attempt to get your left thumb down through the meat of the fish until you hit the top skin. At this point, you now try to separate your hands by pulling the right hand away from you and the left in the opposite direction, or apart. You should end up with the head, top skin and stomach of the fish in your right hand. In the left hand, you should have the remainder—meat, bone structure and the bottom white skin. The last bit of trimming can be the tail section, which, in most cases, ends up with the fillet. This may take a little bit of practice and, at times, you will find it necessary to wear gloves or use a rag in your right hand, since after a few fillets, your hands get pretty messy.

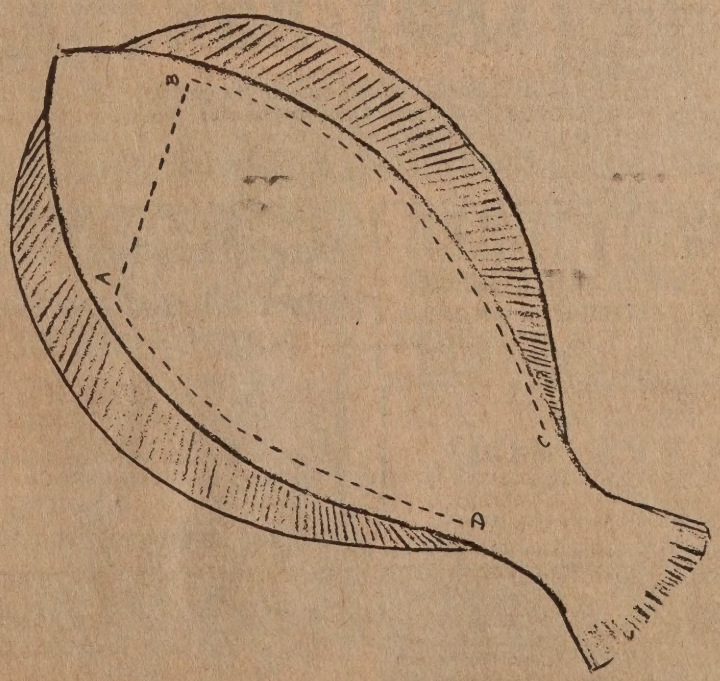
Another version of the pull-apart method I found to be equally effective, is to grab the head portion with your right thumb pointing towards you. The fish should be pointing to your right side and when you grab the fish, right thumb pointing towards you, your arm is in an awkward position. In this position, when you pull the fish apart you tend to roll your left hand over the right. In fact, I prefer this method, but it sure raises hell with the knuckles of your right hand. You'll be surprised at how rough a flounder's skin is. Here I definitely recommend gloves—unless you're a bricklayer by profession.

Never having accomplished the art of sharpening a knife, I use the common utility knife available in any hardware store. The blades can be replaced whenever they dull and they have a very sharp point to make the incisions mentioned above. Since you are only making incisions, these knives are superior to those called fillet knives. The only surface area of the blade you will utilize is the point; so save your favorite knives for those bass and blues coming up soon.

About cooking the fillets, my wife breads them, but when frying them, she always fries the side with the bottom skin last, and places the fish on the plate in this manner. All that is now necessary is to simply part the two top fillets from the backbone with your knife or fork. Then gently, with your fingers, pick up the backbone and pull out the entire bone structure, leaving the clean bottom fillet. From here, it's your decision to consume the bottom skin or not. My taste is not that acute, but frying with the bone structure in has not, to my knowledge, changed the taste of the fish. You may find the meat is somewhat more moist, which I assume is due to the bone structure being left in. If this does not suit you, simply increase the frying time.

As pointed out previously, once this method is mastered, you will find your filleting time has been greatly reduced. Conservatively, I know most can fillet two to three fish by this method, opposed to one fish the common way. And, as an added bonus, if you're like me and use the utility knife, blade sharpening is a thing of the past.

One word of caution to those who are getting the idea of trying this on fluke—forget it. Take my word: it doesn't work. In fact, don't attempt this on snowshoe flounders until you completely master the method. To this day, I occasionally butcher the larger fish, and flounders are one fish I hate to waste.



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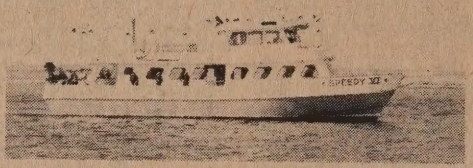

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SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

BLUEFISH

Bluefishing is still excellent whenever the charter boats have been able to sail between windy days. But it is no longer necessary to travel to the Triangle to catch fish—there are hordes of bluefish inshore between the Lighthouse and the Great Eastern buoy and they are stacked deep at the Submarine Buoy. Virtually all reports of bluefish included a footnote that a lot of bonito are being taken mixed in the catches.

Jerry Schnur (aka "Capt. Hook") fished aboard Captain Warren Hader's charterboat **Devilfish** on Tuesday and in only two hours of fishing boated 23 alligator blues before his arms gave out. These fish were taken trolling umbrella rigs with red tubes around the lighthouse area. On Friday the **Devilfish** made a half-day charter to the Sub Buoy and loaded up with a mixed bag of 83 big bluefish and bonito.

Capt. Ron Grandinetti of the charterboat **Julie III** and a party of five (Dennis Lyon, Julio Votero, Bruce Mauro, Sal Cangialosi and Brian Wilson) fished Saturday and Sunday and took a total of 192 bluefish on Ava diamond jigs at the Sub Buoy and the Great Eastern area. They also took one bass of 16 lbs.

Captain Phil Lewis of the charterboat **Adios** said that the bluefishing is still excellent whenever the wind permits sailing for them. Last week up to 80 blues were taken on a half-day trip, and on Friday two men bailed 60 bluefish and requested that the boat return to the dock by 9:30—their arms just couldn't take any more!

Capt. Frank Maccaro of the charterboat **Free Spirit** called to say that the inshore bluefishing has been "great." On Wednesday the charter bailed blues

Shown here are Lou Steinhouse with a 16-1/2 lb. fluke, and Jerry O'Keefe with a 12-1/2 lb. fluke taken aboard the "Jigger III" out of Montauk.

Frank Sess and Dick Smith with a nice pair of eight pound fluke taken aboard the "Viking Starlite" out of Montauk.

in the 10 lb. class while trolling, and on Saturday the anglers loaded up at the Sub Buoy. Loads of bonito were mixed in with the blues.

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fishing Fleet** reported that the bluefishing has been great with the herring bait both day and night at Cartwright and the Sub Buoy.

Captain Dick Vigilant of the charterboat **Triton II** said that he has been taking his large group charters bluefishing. There are so many blues inshore the whole charter can fish at once with diamond jigs rather than taking turns on the wire.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** said that Murry Roth on the "Hi-Lee" trolled over 30 bonito and 15 blues at Midway. On Sunday the "Hang Ten" took 20 blues. Henry said that there are some real gorillas at Cartwright taking bait, but with so many fish inshore and the rotten weather few have been going for them.

Capt. Artie Gerstman of the charterboat **Bumble Bee** reported that trolling for bluefish has been great around the Elbow on both tides. On both Saturday and Sunday over 40 blues were taken each trip, despite the heavy seas.

STRIPED BASS

While there are plenty of bass being taken at Montuak, the fishing has not been without its problems. At night there is just too many blues competing for the plugs, but anglers have been scratching out up to a dozen bass any way. During the day some good catches have been made trolling umbrella's or bucktails and on DeMaio and Ava jigs, but it has been a matter of being in the right place at the right time.

Capt. Warren Hader of the charterboat **Devilfish** reported that on Tuesday morning his charter took bass of 25 and 30 lbs. while trolling in the rips off the lighthouse. The bass hit umbrella rigs with red tubes.

Capt. Phil Lewis of the charterboat **Adios** said that daytime bassing has been a matter of being in the right place at the right time. His charters have been taking between 5 and 10 stripers up to 25 lbs. each trip in addition to blues and bonito. Phil said that Capt. Bob Tuma of the "Dawn" took a bass of 51 lbs. on the weekend, and Capt. Ralph Pitts of the "Margaret V" had over 30 bass trolling

one day during the week.

Capt. John DeMaio of the charterboat **Vivienne** said that the bass are around but fishing has been hot and cold. On Sat morning his charter took 2 bass and the afternoon trip produced 10 bass. All were taken on Ava diamond jigs, which were a good match for weakfish fry the fish were feeding on.

On Sunday afternoon, L.I.F. staff member Scott Simons fished the Elbow on outgoing water. Fishing alone, Scott took 11 bass to 30 lbs., 9 bluefish and 1 false albacore in addition to several bass that were dropped in the heavy seas. All fish were taken on DeMaio jigs, which matched the sandeels the fish were spitting up. Scott said that he left the fish biting due to the mountainous seas. "When you still have to look up to see the top of a wave and you've forgotten what the bottom of the wave looked like, it's time to go in!" (Scott's just a bottom fisherman at heart, we guess.)

Capt. Frank of the **Free Spirit** reported taking two 15-lb. stripers on Wednesday, a 20 lb. bass on Friday and four bass in the 15 to 20 lb. class on Dunday in Jones Rip. Frank said that you have to work for the bass, but they're there.

Captain Frank of the charterboat **Hurry Up** said the bass fishing at night has been a job just to get away from the bluefish. But he has been scratching out a dozen or more bass each night trip trolling Goo-Goo-Eye plugs, in addition to all the bluefish you don't want.

On Saturday's charter aboard the **Triton II** 12 nice bass were taken on diamond jigs around the Elbow.

Hebry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** said that bassing has been good when the boats could get out. One of the marina's boats took 14 bass trolling plugs Thursday night, which was the best night of the week weatherwise. The "Hang Ten" took 4 bass up to 30 lbs. trolling on Sunday.

FLUKE

Not much to report on fluke, it looks like it's just about over. The only report was a dozen fluke taken by the "Friendship II" out of the **Star Island Yacht Club** on Saturday.

PORGIES & SEABASS

Captain Richard Rade of the **Marlin IV** reported that the boat has been taking loads of porgies and big sea bass off Block Island. Now is the best porgy fishing of the year and some anglers get off the boat with 2 and 3 bags of fish. So now is the time to load the freezer with fish for the winter.

Capt. Ron on the **Julie II** said that a weekend charter took a total of 640 lbs. of porgies and seabass fishing at Block Island and around Great Eastern. The south side has also been producing some nice catches of sea bass for those sharpies who know where to go.

CODFISH

Captain Jimmy Behan of the **Peconic Queen III** reported that the codfishing has been good in all the areas around Block Island and it looks like a good fall run in the making. During the week the boat made a two-day tilefishing expedition and took over 2500 lbs. of tiles on setlines.

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Starship** was out on a Nantucket wreck trip when we called, so we will report on the results of this trip next week. Locally, codfishing has been fair to good.

Bob Soohoo proudly displays a 33 and a 35 lb. set of bass. The fish took DeMaio's tube jig aboard the charterboat "Vivienne."

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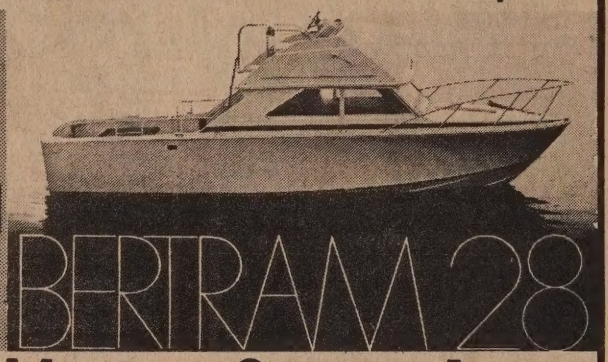

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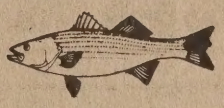

Al Kelly and son, from East Rockaway with forty cod and pollack taken aboard the "Viking Starship" on their special September 18th wreck trip.

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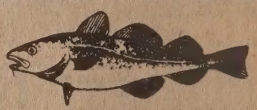

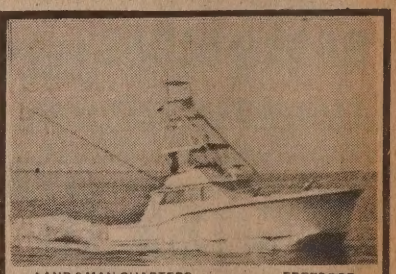

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at Coxes Ledge and the Block Island area.

OFFSHORE

Not much to report offshore. Due to the windy weather, few boats have been sailing with the exception of a few private boats out of the **Star Island Yacht Club.** Henry Colombi said that on Saturday the "April II" brought in two blue sharks of over 200 lbs., largest about 250. They were fishing in 200 feet of water south of the Point. Also on Saturday, the "Jewel" dropped a mako shark at the boat that was estimated to be 350 lbs. The fish made five jumps.

PARADE AT MONTAUK

This Sunday the annual Columbus Day Parade will take place in Montauk, led by Grand Marshall Bosco. The parade will start at 1 PM at the St. Theresa church and move down Main St. All are welcome to attend the parade, which will have many floats and Italian flags.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand of the **Promised Land Fishing Station** reported that the present hotspot for most of the action is Eastern Plains Point off Gardiner's Island. Porgy fishing has been pretty good there, while the porgy action close to the station had dropped dead. A few boats did very good, with blackfish up to 7 lbs. on Saturday on the rocky areas off Eastern Plains Point. No flounder to report yet, but the fall run should be starting any time now. Art said that on Saturday small bluefish in the 1 to 3 pound range were very abundant around Cartwright Shoals. Anglers were taking the small blues casting Hopkins or bucktails underneath the working birds. Art had reports of big bluefish being taken during the week in the deeper water off Eastern Plains Point.

NOYAC

Noyac Marina reports flounders are starting to show. Helen says to remind you that they are closed on Wednesdays.

SHINNECOCK

Mickey at **Altenkirch Tackle** reported that loads of bonito and bluefish are being trolled along the beaches right outside the inlet. A few weakfish in the 8 to 9 lb. class are also mixed in. A few flounder are being taken in Shinnecock Bay, but for the most part they have been on the small side. There are still a few snappers around, but not many. The windy weather has prevented anyone from doing much offshore fishing, but on Saturday the private boat "Ho Jo" took a 70 lb. mako shark in 30 fathoms of water.

HAMPTON BAYS

Jimmy at **Corr's Fishing Station** said that the flounder fishing continues to improve in Shinnecock Bay with most boats averaging 20 to 30 flounder in the small to medium size range. The fish are averaging between a half and 1½ lbs. Best results have been had in the Green Lawn area on both the rising and falling tides. Use sand worm or mussels for bait and corn or mussels for chum. Jimmy said that fishermen can expect the flounder fishing to improve every week as the water gets colder. The fluke and snappers are all gone.

MORICHES BAY

Bill at **East Moriches Bait and Tackle** called to say that bluefishing has been fantastic trolling umbrella rigs with white or red tubes in 35 feet of water, 1½ miles west of the inlet and further west off the Smith's Point pavillion. On Friday, Bill fished with Mike Kijowski and they took 24 bluefish. On Saturday, Bill Smith had a mixed bag of 29 bluefish and bonito, and John Gibbs trolled eight bluefish and one false albacore. Pete Zambuto and Stan Bigora took 21

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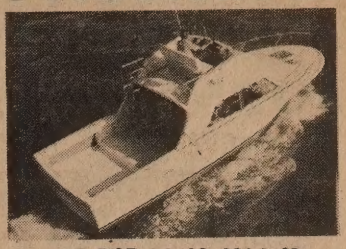
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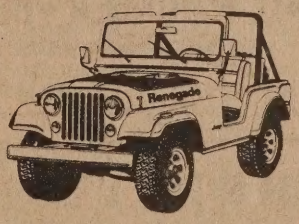

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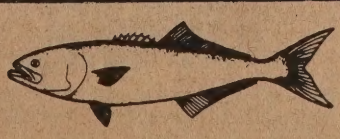

bluefish off the Smith Point Pavillion. Bill said that on Saturday, Stan Saneski took a 100 lb. blue shark in 135 feet of water southeast of the Inlet. Stan also trolled five nice bluefish on his way back in. Flounder fishing is off to a real good start in the Hole between buoys 42 and 43. On Saturday, Jim Green took 15 flounder there on bloodworms and also filled a bushel basket with 20 big blue claw crabs he took in a secret spot. The blackfishing is very good off the west jetty using green crabs and fiddlers. There seems to be two classes of fish—2 to 3 lbs. and 5 to 6 lbs.

Al Lassen of the **Highway Fishing Station** reported that some excellent catches of some. blue claw crabs are being made in the cove by buoy 42 and right in the cove close by the station. One angler on Friday had 40 big blue claws and most catches have been about two dozen. On Saturday, two private boats fished in Moriches Bay and took over 30 flounder each. Trolling for bluefish and bonito was very good on Thursday, Friday and Saturday just outside the inlet.

SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station tells of Jeff Krakowsky's 2 lb. 6 oz. porgy taken at Heckscher's buoy 4 on squid along with 35 blowfish. Blowfishing is fairly steady, with 15 to 50 of these critters per boat. Snappers are sporadic. Loads of blackfish on the Kismet Reef on fiddlers and green crabs. Big weaks on the east line in the shell beds on salty dogs and squid. Big eels in the deep, muddy holes are abundant. Jim Walsh, Jr., on Sunday afternoon boated 35 blows, 4 weaks up to 7 lbs., and 7 eels on the east line for the weakfish and from buoy 29 to 20 for the blowfish. Clay Hardmen had 6 big flounders, 25 blowfish, and three weaks at Heckscher in the channel.

WEST SAYVILLE

South Bay Fishing Station reports good catches of blowfish at buoy 22 in the East Channel along with some flounders up to 1¼ lbs. Flounders and kingfish are also being taken at the slope at buoy 5, Heckscher. This is all on clam and worm.

OAK BEACH

The Store reports some bass and blues off Cedar Beach for casters in the morning hours on tins, but mainly on plugs. Dawn appears best. Blacks at the bridges, bulkheads and jetties on fiddlers and green crab. Good catches of sea bass and porgies on clam being made in scattered areas throughout the inlet. Rumors of umbrellaed bass. A 47 lb. 8 oz. striper was taken this past week off Democratic Point on a white tri-fin by an unnamed visitor from Florida. It's a real mixed bag right now, though the snappers and fluke are just about over.

BAY SHORE

Smokey's Bait and Tackle reports weakfish off the Fire Island Lighthouse

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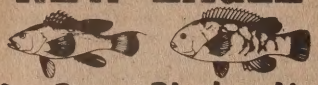
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as evidenced by Rich Lieber and pal taking a good catch on fresh dead snapper, fish eight to twelve pounds on Saturday. Blacks on the inside artificial reef are a very good item at the top of the flood and the start of the ebb on fiddlers and green crab, fish up to 7 lbs. Good flounder activity on Saturday on worms west of the bridge. These are decent size flatties and lafayettes are mixed in. A few flounders also taken at Heckscher, larger but fewer. Some bass inside on clam chum under the big bridge. Some bigger bass have been taken on eels from the Lighthouse to the mouth of the Inlet. A 52 pounder was taken on Tuesday on a live eel by one customer. A surfcaster, wishing to remain anonymous got 25 mixed bass, blues and weaks on Friday fishing from Democratic Point east on the ocean side with plugs at night. He also took a 15 lb. pugnosed

George Bley, Jr., caught this 13-1/2 lb. pool winner on the "Lady Ann" out of Captree while on a bluefish charter with the Telephone Pioneers of America. Subscriber Club Photo.

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bass. Albacore and bonito along with blues at Fire Island whistler buoy and east and around the pound nets on umbrellas, green bananas and diadmond jigs. There are also a lot of big blues at the San Diego and Oregon wrecks on bait and chum

CAPTREE

The Captain Scotty reports that the action on blues remains excellent, with big catches of big, muscular bluefish being taken on all trips, with a scattering of bonito and albacore usually mixed in.

The Captain Ben Litwin called to tell us that Mike Farrar of Flushing, fishing with green crab last Thursday landed an 8 lb. 2 oz. blackfish on the boat, fishing the Kismet area.

Captain Neil of the **Lady Ann** called to say that the bluefishing remains fantastic and couldn't be better. Best is at night. Wednesday's day trip saw 20 men boat 151 giant blues. Wednesday night's trip saw 23 men take 330 giant blues. Thursday night, 11 men had 130 choppers. Friday night's reservation trip saw 20 men deck 360 big blues. Sunday's day trip saw 16 men take 145 blues. Sunday night's trip, 11 men had 160 fish. Neil says the strength in your arms determine the number of fish you can catch. Fish were 7 to 15 lbs. Saturday's blackfishing trip saw 50 of these sluggers brought over the rail, while on Friday, 35 kids on a half-day trip took nearly 400 mixed sea bass and blacks over the outside reef.

Capt. Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy VI** reported that the last two weeks has provided the best bluefishing of the season. The action has been super both day and night using chum off Patchogue Beach in 80 feet of water. Bananas and Ava jigs are also producing fish, and each day sees between 10 and 60 bonito up to 9 lbs. mixed in with the blues. Speedy said that the wrecks are also providing good bluefishing, with fish ranging from 7 to 17 lbs. The captain said that flounder fishing is off to a good start, while the blackfishing remains fair. Watch the boat's ad for some special cod and pollack trips that will be scheduled for later this month. The hot flounder spot is the oyster flats off Bay Shore and in West Channel, with catches of up to 30 flounder a man. Speedy said that the flounder fishing so far this fall is much better than last year's run of fish.

BABYLON

Augie's Bait and Tackle tells us flounders are just starting, but nothing great yet. Catches are being made mostly in the state channel on worms. Plenty of blacks at the bridges, at the wreck buoy on fiddlers and green crab. Neil Berringer caught a 10 lb. 9 oz. weakfish in the South Shore Tuna and Marlin Club Contest held this weekend. Bluefish have been spotty, though Wednesday and Thursday were very good with a lot of big fish being caught at the Whistler, all methods. Bonito and albacore were cooperative on Friday at the Inlet in 25 to 30 feet of water. Still a few fluke around on sand eels and a lot of lafayettes on clam. Lots of eels in the bay.

Mario at **Hi-Hook Fishing Station** says that the best catches right now are blackfish at the Kismet Reef, with one of his skiffs bringing back 35 of these bucktoothed wonders on fiddlers and green crabs. He says the fluke are about gone and no flounder reports yet.

LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait and Tackle reports blackfishing is the hottest thing now, with the Kismet Reef being the most likely spot with fiddlers and green crabs. The bridges are your next best bet. Some flounders being taken from the Lindenhurst town beach, The Copiague hole along with porgies. These are decent sized fish, says John. Still a few fluke falling to sand eels and squid. On Friday, bluefishing at night was very good on the party boats, fishing in 70 feet of water about ten miles east of the lighthouse.

Duke's Bait and Tackle has scattered flounder reports from the State Channel area, but he says your best bet is blackfish at the Kismet Reef and at the Robert Moses Bridge on fiddlers. Harry Kircher and Frank Lossaso of Lindenhurst fishing on Sunday had over 30 blacks up to 7 lbs. 8 oz. Albies and bonito as close as 60 feet of water, and a big school of blues from Moriches Inlet to Fire Island Inlet as close as 25 feet of water. A few bass in the surf and a definite improvement over what was being caught just a week ago. Plugs and eels are doing it. Weaks in the hole between the old lighthouse and the wreck buoy on live snappers (scarce) and small live blackfish. A few fluke were taken on Saturday on sand eels in F.I. Inlet. Porgies at the Kismet Reef on clam and blows in the Copiague hole on clam and worm. Sea bass gone.

COPIAGUE

Larry at **Bait and Tackle Unlimited** reports flounder fishing is strong, fish up to 1½ lbs. off Tanner Park Beach and bulkhead and also the Copiague Hole on worms. Lafayettes, eels and porgies are also being taken from these spots, same bait. Snappers have thinned out. Blacks very good at the bridges and at the Kismet Reef on fiddlers. School bass at the bridges on bellies and on live drifted eels. Weakfish still being taken in the hole off the lighthouse with any small, live bait working best.

Jonas Bait and Tackle reports blackfish good at the bridges and the artificial reef on fiddlers and green crabs. Flounders picking up nicely with one customer having a catch in the 50s in a cove off the State Channel on bloods and sandworms. Weakfish on snappers (scarce) in the hole off the lighthouse. Jonas weighed in a 13 pounder the other day, taken by Ken Roach by this method. Jonas weighed in another weak of 10 lbs. 14 oz. and a few other large weaks taken from the same spot off the lighthouse. A few stripers taken in the State Channel at the measured mile on flounder rigs armed with bloodworms.

SEAFORD

Lon Wanser's Bait and Tackle tells us flounders are starting, but they are on the small side right now. They're being taken along with porgies, sea bass, and lafayettes in Zach's Bay, Biltmore Shores and Four Corners, all on clam and worm. One angler had 40 school bass taken at the third Wantagh bridge and we assume this was on bellies. Several anglers trolling umbrellas in the Jones Inlet area are taking anywhere from a few to 20 stripers on umbrellas.

Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station reports the best action this week has been blackfish at the bridges and at the black

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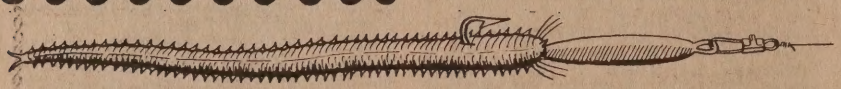

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banks on fiddlers and green crabs. Porgies and lafayettes are abundant on clam, but the weakfishing has fallen off.

BELLMORE

Scott at **Merrick Marine Supplies** reports that George Cross took a 30 lb. 14. oz. bass fishing from the Jones Inlet Jetty on Saturday fishing 10 lb. test Stren and a tri-fin eel. A lot of bass are being taken from this jetty on eels and plugs. Most of these fish are schoolies. Some flounders are being taken along with porgies and lafayettes in Fundey Creek, Swift Creek, and in the channels on worms and clam. Weaks are being jigged off the jetty and from boats. They are also being taken at the last Meadowbrook bridge on sandworms. Blues, bonito and albies are being trolled on umbrellas, tubes and feathers at the 30 foot mark.

MERRICK

Nick's Fishing Station reports a mixed bag of porgies, flounder, spot, blacks and eels, plus still a few snappers. The blacks are at the Swift Creek Bridge, Meadowbrook bridge and T-wreck on fiddlers and green crabs. Flounders at Merrick Point, Rowboat Alley and Broad Creek, along with porgies in the half pound range on worms and clam. Bluefish sporadically hitting the inlet area, sometimes on top (plugs) and sometimes they are deep and you must go to wire. A few weakfish mixed in with them. Some schoolies mixed into this as well.

BALDWIN

Arthur Street Fishing Station reports weaks and blues just outside Jones Inlet on A-27 jigs and umbrella rigs at the JI buoy. Albacore have been taken at the 40 foot line on umbrellas with white tubes. Middle Bay and Cinder Creek are starting to produce fall flounders now.

George Baltzer holds this 12-1/2 lb. blue which he caught in Hempstead Harbor on a live bunker. Subscriber Club Photo.

★NORTH SHORE★

Frank Locaso and his party show off two bluefin tuna in the forty pound range. Also pictured is a string of other tuna, albacore and bonito. All fish were caught aboard Captain Arnold's "Shalidon" at the Mud Hole and HA Buoy on cedar jigs and feathers.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie of the **Starstream II** reports excellent bottom fishing for sea bass, porgies and blacks with an occasional blue or bonito, fishing the local wrecks and reefs, 15 to 40 minutes from the Inlet. On Saturday, an 8 lb. bonito took the pool and other pools during the week are being taken by a blackfish or bluefish from 7 to 8 lbs. The Captain reported excellent crowds, despite bad weather reports and fares were filling five gallon pails with sea bass, porgies and blacks.

The Capt. Al reports that on Saturday a good crowd of people loaded up with bluefish, and on Sunday, the fishing was a bit more picky but still good. Big fish were taken up to 15 lbs., by chumming and fishing with smelts or butterfish off of Cholera.

The Blue Fin II reports that on Saturday, blues up to 10 or 12 lbs. were taken off Cholera on live bergalls and chum and bait, such as smelts or butterfish. On Sunday, the boat fished south-southeast of Jones Inlet and took a good load of sea bass and porgies. The sea bass ran up to 2½ lbs., and porgies to 1½ lbs., on skimmers.

The Aloma II reports flounder fishing is getting better and better with fish up to 1¾ being taken in Swift Creek, Reynolds Channel and the State Channel. Porgies and some blackfish are also being caught.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports lots of blacks at the Meadowbrook Bridge on fiddlers. Some flounders are also being brought in, along with good catches of lafayettes and porgies. All taken on worms and clam.

Hook Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle tells us that Bob Drinkwater caught a 7 lb. 11 oz. weak and an 18 lb. 2 oz blue both on the same umbrella rig at the same time in Sloop Channel on Friday. Flounders are being taken at the juncture of Swift Creek and the Fundey cut. John Young caught a mess of flounder from 1 to 1½ lbs., on worms and clam chum on Friday. At the 40 foot line, south of the inlet, Thursday and Friday saw bluefish hitting on just about everything. It is rumored that even one of Scott Simons' old cigar butts took a fish. Porgies, lafayettes and blackfish are being taken at the bulkheads and in the bridge area.

Miss Freeport reports flounder fishing very good this week, though not too many people, no doubt due to the flaky weather. Swift Creek and Fundey Creek produced best. A lot of porgies in the same area, plus the Coast Guard Station on clam. The flounders hit on clam and

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worms.

The charterboat **Sea Hawk** called to report that the six man charter set up by Rod Rhoades resulted in a bluefish slaughter consisting of 70 big choppers and one bonito all taken on bunker, smelt, and bunker chum on Friday at Cholera. One or two fish were on at all times during the day. There are a few October and November weekends still available.

POINT LOOKOUT

The charterboat **Marie III** called to report that Saturday saw excellent bluefishing at the Cholera, fish from 8 to 12 lbs. on bait and chum. The bottom at Cholera was loaded with half to one pound porgies which obligingly bit on clam. Putting anchovies, which are all over the place at Cholera, on for blues resulted in immediate hook-ups.

Ed's Fishing Station reports lots of bluefish were trolled this past week off Lido on umbrellas from 35 feet on out. A few fluke were taken over the week at the Coast Guard Station and at the mouth of Jones Inlet. Lots of blackfish at all the bridges, fish running from 3 to 8 lbs., with the average fish going 3 to 5 lbs. on fiddlers and green crabs. Lots of lafayettes and sand porgies pretty much all over the area, but mainly in the creeks and channels on clam and worm.

Scotty's Marina reports that bass up to 18 lbs. are hitting umbrellas and green banana rigs from Jones Inlet to Meadowbrook Bridge. Weakfish are also being taken in this manner and also by drifting worms at the Meadowbrook bridge. Bluefish from 10 to 15 lbs. are hitting bunkers and umbrellas in Jones Inlet in 20 feet of water. Blackfish are being taken on crabs at the T-wreck, Rota wreck, and at the Meadowbrook bridge. Flounder, lafayettes, and porgies can be taken anywhere.

ISLAND PARK

Beckmann's Tackle reports that blackfishing is fantastic at the Meadowbrook bridge and at Atlantic Beach. These fish are running up to 4 lbs. The rock jetties are producing bigger fish up to 8 lbs., and the best bait to use is green crabs for the bigger fish and fiddlers for the most quantity. Flounder are being taken at Swift Creek, Coast Guard Station, and at the Old Town Dock. These fish are

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mostly small and are hitting worms. Bluefish are hitting the surf every morning at Pt. Lookout, Lido Beach or Atlantic Beach. These fish are taking mackerel or bunker chunks and lures and plugs. These fish are averaging 10 to 12 lbs. and running up to 17.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Sy at **Henning's Fishing Station** reports that off Lido Beach during the week in 40 feet of water, big bluefish were trolled on umbrellas. In shallower water, albacore and bonito were trolled on umbrellas as well. Under the Atlantic Beach Bridge, bass are being caught on drifted worms fished just off the bottom. Loads of blacks at the Atlantic Beach bridge on fiddlers. Porgies in the bay on worm and clam, fair/good. The Tin Can is producing bass at night on jigs or on worms drifted just above the bottom. Sy heard of a few bass in the surf at Atlantic Beach on Rebels. Fluking is just about over.

JAMAICA BAY

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reports that blues anywhere from snapper size to 15 lbs. are being taken at the north and south channel bridges at night on bunker chunks, filleted lafayettes, and snapper bait. Some weakfish and bass are mixed in with these blues. Blackfishing is improving at the Marine Parkway Bridge, and are being taken on fiddlers and clams. Porgies and lafayettes are still plentiful.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Captain Fred on the **Enterprise** reports fair bluefishing on Saturday's day trip. Fred reports that the new **amberjack v** is coming along at the shipyard down south and should be up here by March of '78. The Enterprise will be going into the shipyard for the next week or two.

Captain Rocky of the **Tampa VI** tells us that the bluefishing has been very good on the day and night trips and presently it is the best that the season has seen as far as quantity and size of fish. He reports that his tile trips have all been sell outs and that the October 8th and 9th tile trips are all booked solid. See Ad for next scheduled trips. He suggests that you book early to secure a spot and that you check the Ad for the Columbus Day special wreck trip.

The Atomic II reports that blackfishing has been on and off at Sea Bright, but is on a steady incline. They have been fishing with green crabs and pool fish of 6 lbs. have been taken.

The New Zephyr reported that blackfishing has not been bad in the past week. Fish up to 6 lbs. were being taken at Rockaway and Sea Bright during the week and in deep water offshore on the weekend. Porgies and sea bass have been mixed in with their catches. On the weekend, the blackfish ranged from 5 to 7 lbs. with 15 to 35 blacks, sea bass and porgies being taken.

The Chief reports that bottom fishing on Saturday and Sunday was fair, fishing the west and east reefs, Rockaway, and a couple of wrecks. Fishing during the week was better than the weekend and the boat's catches consisted of sea bass, porgies and blackfish.

Blue Sea III reports that plenty of bluefish are being taken both jigging and on bait. The fishing has been very good and even on Saturday, nice catches were taken. During the day, fish from 10 to 18 lbs., were being taken from the Farms and small fish from 3 to 5 lbs. were being taken from the Klondike. Sea Bright also produced these smaller fish on bait. The Captain is looking forward to a good fall run.

Salvo's Bait and Tackle reports plenty of big blues from the Tin Can up to the Verrazano Bridge on umbrellas and bunker spoons. Plenty of snappers, porgies and lafayettes all along the sea wall from the Coney Island Pier to the 69th Street Pier. Stripers at the Breezy Point jetty on worms drifted off the bottom, a few blues and weaks mixed in on worms also. The best bluefishing is at Norton's Point trolling umbrellas or diamond jigging or jigging or squidding with S&G Banana Splits.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reports that bluefish from 8 to 14½ lbs., are being taken at South Beach and from Ft. Wadsworth all the way down to Great Kills Park. The storm sewers are the hotspots on the last two hours of the tide and low tide on poppers and swimmers. Bluefish are hitting lafayettes, bunker and butterfish on the night tides, with an average catch of one to five fish per man. Weakfish from 8 to 9½ lbs. are hitting live snappers, lafayettes and sandworms on a float, in Great Kills Harbor along the bulkhead. Bill Montalbano took two weakfish of 8 lbs. 12 oz. and 9 lbs. 3 oz., fishing Great Kills Harbor. Good family fishing can be had at Piers 17, 18 and 8, with nice mixed catches of snappers, porgies, lafayettes, flounder, and a few stripers being taken. Buoy 46 in Tottenville is producing weakfish on sandworms or lafayettes from 8 to 9 lbs. Big bluefish from 14 to 18 lbs., are being taken from South Beach to Norton's Point on Lupo or Montauk bunker spoons. An average catch per boat was a dozen or better of these choppers.

Bob Cannon caught this 1-1/2 lb. porgy in Smithtown Bay and it was weighed in at the Chain Locker in Northport.

Ed Foy holds a 20-1/2 lb. bluefish taken aboard the Short Circuit out of Orient Point Marina.

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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

GREENPORT

Capt. George Porter of the **Brand X** reports that bluefishing was great all week and fantastic on the weekend. He has been fishing Green Hills, the Gut, the Race and Pine Point. On Saturday, 300 fish were boated and the fish taken from Green Hills on Sunday ran up to 14 lbs. Diamond jigs were primarily used, but for those not knowing how to use them, the blues also were taking bait.

The Wilhelric reports that blackfishing has been very good, with fish to 12 lbs., being taken on green crabs at Gull and Plum Island. Porgies are mixed in with these catches. Last Monday seven people aboard the boat took 75 fish in three hours.

A. P. White Bait Shop reported excellent bluefishing all last week from the Race to Plum Gut and also on the east side of Gardiner's Island. Blackfishing has been good around Plum and Gull Islands. Still plenty of porgies around. Bass fishing was real good on the morning and evening tide last week between the Sluiceway and Plum Gut. A lot of 30 and 40 lb. fish were taken.

The party boat **Brand X** reported doing very well with the bluefish on every day last week. The fishing was very consistent. This is the height of the fall bluefish season.

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(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

1. TITLE OF PUBLICATION	A. PUBLICATION NO.	2. DATE OF FILING
The Long Island Fisherman		Oct. 3, 1977
3. FREQUENCY OF ISSUE	**A. NO. OF ISSUES PUBLISHED ANNUALLY**	**B. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION PRICE**
Weekly (except 2 weeks in December)	50 Issues	$9.00

4. LOCATION OF KNOWN OFFICE OF PUBLICATION *(Street, City, County, State and ZIP Code) (Not printers)*
Bridge Street, Sag Harbor, Suffolk, New York 11963

5. LOCATION OF THE HEADQUARTERS OR GENERAL BUSINESS OFFICES OF THE PUBLISHERS *(Not printers)*
Same

6. NAMES AND COMPLETE ADDRESSES OF PUBLISHER, EDITOR, AND MANAGING EDITOR

PUBLISHER *(Name and Address)*
Richard Reina, 94 E. Tiana Rd, Hampton Bays, NY 11946

EDITOR *(Name and Address)*
Scott Simons, West Lake Drive, Montauk, NY 11954

MANAGING EDITOR *(Name and Address)*
William Muller, 457 Baldwin Path, Deer Park, NY 11729

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Louise Reina	94 E. Tiana Rd., Hampton Bays, NY

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2. MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS	15,300	15,143
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G. TOTAL *(Sum of E, F1 and 2—should equal net press run shown in A)*	39,500	35,500

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PS Form Mar. 1977 3526 *(Page 1)* (See instructions on reverse)

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt Fishing Station reports that on Saturday blackfishing was very good, with bushels being taken from the Brickyards. These fish are not any bigger as of yet, but there is a greater amount being taken. Flounder fishing has been good at Long Beach and porgy fishing in the area is going downhill. Bluefishing has been good in the Race and at Pine Point on diamond jigs and bait. Some striped bass are being taken in the Gut at night and in the early morning.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports that porgy fishing has slowed, with fish still being taken to three-quarters of a pound at Nassau Point and Rose Grove on clams and worms. Flounder fishing is starting up in the creeks with fish from ½ to ¾ of a pound being taken.

JAMESPORT

Jamesport Bait and Tackle reports that porgies are still in the area and are running up to 2 lbs. Best spot to get them is at buoy 30 with worms and clams. The draggers have started porgy fishing in Peconic Bay as of October 1st, which is according to the law, so porgy fishing will probably take a decided downturn in the near future. Blues are being taken in the Sound off most beaches. Horton's Point seems to be the best spot for fish up to 14 lbs. on bunker, snappers and poppers. Bass action has picked up at Roanoke, drifting sandworms on the outgoing tide. These fish are running from 6 to 15 lbs.

Mike Gerbauckas caught this 2 lb. 14 oz. pickerel in Peconic River. Photo courtesy of Angler's Den in Selden.

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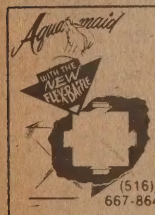

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ROCKY POINT

Rocky Point Fishing Stop reports that blackfish are being taken off the beach from Miller Place to Shoreham averaging 2 to 3 lbs. and up to 7. These fish are hitting green crabs, fiddlers, worms, and clams. Snappers are getting bigger, but more widespread. Fish from one to two pounds can be taken along the beaches. Blues are hitting tins at Tide's Beach from 4 to 4½ lbs. Bass are feeding on bunker at the Lilco Plant and fishermen there are catching them on small swimmers and eels. The middle grounds was loaded with bonito this past weekend, but wouldn't touch a thing. On Saturday, trollers were taking a steady pick of bluefish from the tower at Sound Beach to buoy 9. These fish were averaging 4 to 5 lbs. Flounder averaging 1 lb. and lots of them, were being taken at Cedar Beach on sand and bloodworms.

SELDEN

The Angler's Den reported blackfish making their fall migration to inshore waters. Last week blackfish were taken from Cranes Neck and Old Field Pt. Bob Gorski took 10 bluefish up to 8½ lbs. on the ocean side of Smith's Pt. on Kastmasters. Flounder fishing is showing signs of life in Mt. Sinai Harbor and Cedar Beach. The Derby Winners for the **Anglers Den Contest** for Sept. are: Joe Artes, blackfish - 7 lbs. 6 oz.; Paul Engasser, fluke - 12 lbs; Fred Kaye and Don Dochderman - tied for bluefish at 14 lbs. 4 ozs; George Grosselfinger, striped bass - 31 lbs. 7 oz.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station reports that blackfish up to 7 lbs. are being taken along the beaches on green crabs and some on skimmers. Ray Klein took nine blacks to 7 lbs., on the outside of the breakwater. Some porgies are still around. Bluefish can be taken about half-way to the Middle Grounds, if you can get out to them. These fish are averaging 8 to 9 lbs.

PORT JEFFERSON

Caraftis Fishing Station reported the bluefish last week were out at juoy 11, Middle Ground, and Crane Neck Point. There's still plenty of porgies off Old Field Point. If you use green crabs, you can catch blackfish in the same spot.

KINGS PARK

Bob at **Mae's Way Fishing Station** reports that they enjoyed a good fishing weekend despite the bad weather reports. There were some jumbo blues taken along the beaches and striped bass activity is starting to show. Porgies are becoming less plentiful, but those that remain are mostly big fish. Blackfish action is also on the increase. On Saturday, Bob and Bill Wallak from King Park went to buoy 11B off Eaton's Neck and returned for more fiddler crab bait by 11 AM. They had 8 blackfish up to 5 lbs., for their early morning efforts. Also on Saturday, Joe Chimienti of Brooklyn and his friend, caught over 100 lbs. of porgies off the Mansions on sandworm bait. Several blackfish in the 5 to 8 lb. class topped their catch. On Sunday, Roger Olsen from the station trolled a nice catch of blues to 12 lbs., and two bass of 6 and 7 lbs., on bucktails. Some local sharpies, who prefer to be nameless, have been catching as many as 12 bass per night but are not telling where or how.

NORTHPORT

Fred of the **Chain Locker** reports that the harbor is alive with alligator-sized bluefish each morning. Monday the fish were 30 yards off Main Street and not a boat was in sight. On his way to work, Fred stopped off at Cold Spring Harbor and saw the same type of action. John Papas of Bethpage and Brad Fritz of East Meadow, fished with Fred on Sunday and boated 27 bluefish to 17 lbs. on Creek Chubs, tins, Rebels and after losing all of these lures, switched to bunker. Geoff Wendt, aboard the Piscator, took 75 blues to 21 lbs., and returned all but five fish. The fishing was excellent during the week and due to the fact that the weather limited boat traffic. Bass are being picked up at Target Rock and Eaton's Neck, both sides of the tide on plugs for boats braving the winds. These fish are not schoolies, but are the beginning of the fall run of big fish pouring out of New England. Blackfish are solid in the rocks off the entire shoreline and reports of large blackfish are coming from buoy 11B. Duck Island Harbor is thick with

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flounder, with few boats concentrating on them due to the tremendous bluefishing in both Northport and Huntington Harbors.

Tom at **Bowman's Sporting Goods** reported last Monday the bluefish were chasing bunker in the harbor in the area of the Town Dock. William Delski Belsky from E. Npt. caught a 15 lb. 8 oz. bluefish right from the Town Dock.

HUNTINGTON

Ronnie's Bait and Tackle reports large blues have been charging bunker in Huntington Harbor this week and many blues in the high teens have been taken. Karl Almstron of Huntington Station took 11 blues to 19 lbs., on live bunker. On Thursday and Friday, large blues from 11 to 15 lbs. were taken at 11B on trolled umbrellas and bunker chunks on the bottom. On Saturday, Steve Whalen had three bluefish in the 12 lb. class and lost another three fishing from Makamah Beach on chunked bunker. Some blacks at 11B on green crab. These are mostly 3 to 6 pounders with occasional larger fish. Some flounders in the Bay and off Marshal Fields on worms and mussels. Sporadic reports of bass at Crab Meadow, Marshal Fields and Eaton's Neck.

George Valentine of **Four Winds Tackle** reports that bluefish are the highlights of this week's report. Cold Spring Harbor is having its showing of blues on a daily basis. These fish are showing at daybreak and late afternoon under the bunker schools. They are running from 12 to 16 lbs., and up to 19 lbs., and are hitting bunker. Bluefishing is also excellent at buoy 11B, wire lining umbrellas. These fish are from 8 to 15 lbs. Blackfishing is improving at the 11B, with fish from 6 to 7 lbs., taking green crabs. Morris Rock off Marshall Field is producing smaller blackfish from 2 to 5 lbs., with sea bass mixed in on fiddler crabs. Porgies are mixed in with the blackfish at 11B and are all big stuff from 2 to 2½ lbs. These fish are taking blackfish bait readily. Porgies can also be taken at Marshall Field on worms and clams. These fish are concentrated mostly from buoy 4 to 6. Fall flounder fishing is developing in Northport and Lloyd Harbor and by late October, early November, there should be some great fishing.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait and Tackle reported a lot of small blackfish taken over the weekend. One rental boat came in with 43 blackfish last Saturday. Blackfishing should reach its peak within the next couple of weeks. One shore fisherman caught a 14 lb. bluefish by fishing a chunk of lafayette on the bottom at Orchard Beach. One small charterboat took 18 bluefish last Saturday up in the Conn. portion of the Sound. There were several reports of bass erratically flopping around on the top of the water and also reports of dead bass. One customer reported sighting a 22 pounder flopping on the top off Bronx Beach. The fish was in such a sorry state, the man was able to net it. He returned it to the water, though, figuring something was wrong with it. So far none of the bass found dead that have been sent out to Federal laboratories for examination to determine the cause of the deaths of the bass in the western Sound have come back yet. Until they do, we won't know the answer to this problem.

John's Gun and Tackle reports that weather permitting, blues are being taken in dawn and early morning hours off New Rochelle and the Hemlpstead Harbor Shoreline on trolled plugs or chunk bait on the bottom. Porgies and lafayettes in the same areas, along with snappers on worm and clam.

GROTON CONN.

Capt. Brad Glas of the **Helcat** reported excellent, excellent bluefishing all last week. Most fares got all the fish they wanted. Ray Ayers of Niantic boated a 19 lb. 10 oz. bluefish that puts him in the lead for the **Helcat** contest and wins him the monthly prize in the party boat division of the Town of Groton Fishing Derby. Last Saturday, the **Helcat** fished to the south of Montauk for a really good haul. At the end of the day, one man in a small car had to call up to Hartford for bigger transportation for him and all his fish. There wasn't enough room in the little machine.

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	2:58	3:24	3:51	4:16	3:34	3:51	4:54	5:06	5:59	6:18	6:35	6:57	2:46	3:01	10/6
FRI.	3:56	4:20	4:49	5:13	4:35	4:51	5:48	6:00	7:04	7:27	7:32	7:53	3:47	4:03	10/7
SAT.	4:49	5:10	5:42	6:01	5:33	5:49	6:35	7:49	8:15	8:33	8:25	8:45	4:47	5:05	10/8
SUN.	5:38	5:57	6:31	6:49	6:24	6:39	7:16	7:34	9:05	9:23	9:13	9:33	5:42	5:57	10/9
MON.	6:22	6:43	7:13	7:35	7:08	7:24	7:57	8:16	9:50	10:11	9:57	10:19	6:31	6:47	10/10
TUE.	7:06	7:28	7:55	8:17	7:48	8:06	8:39	9:01	10:30	10:53	10:41	11:02	7:14	7:32	10/11
WED.	7:50	8:13	8:37	8:59	8:29	8:48	9:20	9:45	11:10	11:38	11:23	11:42	7:58	8:14	10/12
THUR.	8:35	8:57	9:22	9:42	9:10	9:33	10:02	10:32	11:54	—	—	12:06	8:40	9:00	10/13

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	— 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	— 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	— 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	— 0 12
Seaside Park	— 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	— 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	— 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	— 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	— 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	— 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	— 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	— 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	— 0 38
Democrat Point	— 0 38
Coast Guard Station	— 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	— 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	— 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	— 0 08
Herod Point	— 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	— 0 20
Truman Beach	— 0 42
Falkner Island	— 0 13
Sachem Head	— 0 10
Branford Harbor	— 0 07
New Haven Harbor	— 0 08
Milford Harbor	— 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	— 0 03
Saugatuck River	— 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	— 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	— 0 14
Montauk Inlet	— 0 25
Montauk Point	— 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	— 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	— 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	— 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	— 0 10
Execution Light	— 0 06
Manhasset Bay	— 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	— 0 11
City Island	— 0 03
Rye Beach	— 0 28
Port Chester	— 0 09
Mamaroneck	— 0 08
New Rochelle	— 0 24
Davids Island	— 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	— 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	— 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	— 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	— 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	— 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	— 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	— 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

10/3	6:59	6:39
10/8	7:04	6:30
10/13	7:10	6:22
10/18	7:16	6:14
10/23	7:21	6:07
10/28	7:27	6:00

PHASES OF THE MOON

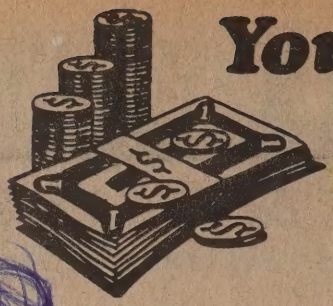
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
10/12	10/19	10/26	10/5

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM **Major**	PM Minor	PM **Major**
THURS.	—	**6:30**	12:25	**6:55**
FRI.	12:40	**7:15**	1:10	**7:35**
SAT.	1:25	**7:55**	1:50	**8:20**
SUN.	2:05	**8:40**	2:35	**9:05**
MON.	2:50	**9:25**	3:20	**9:50**
TUES.	3:35	**10:10**	4:00	**10:35**
WED.	4:20	**11:00**	4:45	**11:25**
THURS.	5:10	**11:55**	5:40	—

DON'T LET THIS ONE GET AWAY!



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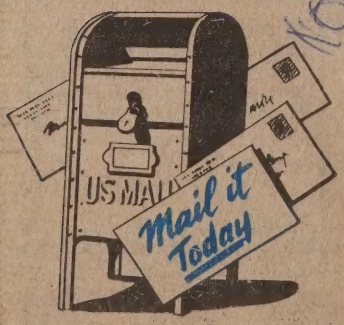
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